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This unit targets the following Assessment Objectives: AO1 and AO4 and also assesses AO3 and AO5ii.

Answer ONE question.

1. de BERNIÈRES: *Captain Corelli's Mandolin* (Minerva or Vintage)

Either:

- (a) 'Eccentric they were seen to be. The empty-headed gossips of the village transformed Drosoula, with her extreme ugliness, and Pelagia, with her fearless lack of deference to men, into a pair of harridans and witches.'

In the light of this quotation, what is your response to de Bernières's presentation of women in the society depicted in the novel?

In your answer you should include an examination of Chapter 64 'Antonia' and **at least one other** appropriate passage of your choice.

Or:

- (b) 'Readers have criticised the post-war chapters of the novel for their anti-communism and excessive length. They are, however, essential to de Bernières's need to depict changes in society rather than the idea of history repeating itself.'

In the light of this comment, what is your response to the ways in which change is presented by de Bernières in *Captain Corelli's Mandolin*?

In your answer you should include an examination of **at least two** appropriate passages of your choice.

Q1

(Total 50 marks)



2. **ATWOOD:** *Alias Grace* (Virago)

Either:

- (a) ‘Mrs Moodie’s unreliability in her book about Grace demonstrates the need to “embroider” a good story.’

In the light of this comment, what is your response to the ‘embroidered’ versions of Grace’s story as presented by Margaret Atwood in her novel?

In your answer you should include an examination of the central part of Chapter 21, from ‘Reverend Verringer’s housekeeper greets him with a disapproving nod.’ up to ‘“Let us go to welcome them, shall we?”’ (pages 218–224) and **at least one other** appropriate passage of your choice.

Or:

- (b) ‘The cheapness of life is just one of the shocking issues that separate the modern reader from the nineteenth-century world presented in the novel.’

In the light of this assertion, what is your response as a modern reader to the ways in which Atwood presents nineteenth-century attitudes to ‘the cheapness of life’ in *Alias Grace*?

In your answer you should include an examination of **at least two** appropriate passages of your choice.

Q2

(Total 50 marks)

3. **MURDOCH:** *The Bell* (Vintage)

Either:

- (a) ‘The relationship between art, morality and love is the central theme of *The Bell*.’

Do you agree that Murdoch presents this ‘relationship’ as her central concern in the novel?

You should include in your answer an examination of the latter part of Chapter 14, from ‘Dora hadn’t especially intended to visit the National Gallery....’ (page 189), Chapter 15 and **at least one other** appropriate passage of your choice.

Or:

- (b) ‘Toby emerges from his experiences at Imber relatively unscathed despite being torn between male and female love on the one hand and between the erotic and the religious on the other.’

In the light of this critical remark, what is your response to Murdoch’s diverse presentation of Toby and his experiences in *The Bell*.

In your answer you should include an examination of **at least two** appropriate passages of your choice.

Q3

(Total 50 marks)



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4. **FORSTER:** *Howards End* (Penguin)

Either:

- (a) Leonard's comment to Helen 'May I take it, Miss Schlegel, that you and I are both the sort that say "I"?' and her response that 'All presentable people say "I".' remind the reader of what connects him to the Schlegel sisters.

In the light of this assertion, what is your response to how Forster presents what connects Leonard and the Schlegel sisters?

In your answer you should include an examination of Chapter XXVII and **at least one other** appropriate passage of your choice.

Or:

- (b) Mrs Wilcox comments: "Howards End was nearly pulled down once. It would have killed me."

In the light of this quotation, how appropriate is it to see Howards End, the house, as a symbol of human dignity and endurance, even after Mrs Wilcox's early death?

In your answer you should include an examination of **at least two** appropriate passages of your choice.

Q4

(Total 50 marks)

5. **ACHEBE:** *Things Fall Apart* (Heinemann)

Either:

- (a) 'Achebe presents Ibo society as one controlled by its attitudes to wealth, status, property and ritual.'

In the light of this comment, what is your response to the ways in which these attitudes are presented in *Things Fall Apart*?

In your answer you should include an examination of Chapter Three and **at least one other** appropriate passage of your choice.

Or:

- (b) 'The poem from which Achebe takes his title, foresees an ominous period of change when "Mere anarchy is loosed upon the world".'

In the light of this, what is your response to Achebe's presentation of the changes in Ibo society in *Things Fall Apart*?

In your answer you should refer to **at least two** appropriate passages of your choice.

Q5

(Total 50 marks)



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Indicate which question you are answering by marking the box (☒). If you change your mind, put a line through the box (☒) and then indicate your new question with a cross (☒).

Chosen question number:

Question 1(a) <input type="checkbox"/>	Question 1(b) <input type="checkbox"/>
Question 2(a) <input type="checkbox"/>	Question 2(b) <input type="checkbox"/>
Question 3(a) <input type="checkbox"/>	Question 3(b) <input type="checkbox"/>
Question 4(a) <input type="checkbox"/>	Question 4(b) <input type="checkbox"/>
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